

The Hong Kong Daily Press

No. 6216

日三十二年六月廿五日

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, 5TH AUGUST, 1874.

三三
號五八英 香港

PRICE \$24 PER MONTH.

Arrivals.

August 4, MINDANAO, British ship, 428,
C. Smith, Sydney 5th June, Coals—
Order.

Departures.

August 4, OLYMPIA, s.s. for Shanghai.
August 4, YEN-TAI, s.s. for Shanghai.
August 4, STAR OF CHINA, for Cebu.

Clearances.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE,
AUGUST 4TH.
A. E. Vidal, for Newchwang.
Courier, for Tientsin.

PASSAGES.

To DRAFT.
For A. E. Vidal, for Newchwang.—
1 Chinese.
Per Courier, for Tientsin.—
1 Chinese.

Reports.

The British ship Mindanao reports left Sydney on 30th June; after leaving had strong South and S.W. winds, remainder of passage light winds and calms.

Vessels Expected at Hongkong.

Vessel's Name	Arrived	Dates
Almendro	Cape Town	July 15
Almendro	New York	Feb. 10
Frances	Singapore	Feb. 19
Aranian	London	March 3
Athanasius	Penang	March 21
J. Christiani	Unshaven	March 24
Carthage	April 5	
Olsapatra	Penang	April 10
Morning Light	Penang	April 10
W. H. B. Liverpool	Penang	April 20
St. Lucia Park-London	London	May 10
W. G. Platner	Cardiff	May 10
Palomar	London	May 23
Frederick Tudor	Cardiff	May 23
Eugenio	Cardiff	June 2
Hopewell	London	June 4
Glenfield (s.s.)	Glasgow	June 10
Kingsford Castle	London	June 10
Marine Warwicks	London	June 13
City of London	London	June 17
Marina	Penang	June 18
Stefano	Penang	June 20
Lord Macaulay	Liverpool	June 20
Bremah	London	June 24

Auction Sales To-day.

None.

FOOCHOW DOCK:**PAGODA ANCHORAGE:**

THE above Granite-dored DOCK has lately been LENGTHENED to 300 feet overall, and is now capable of receiving vessels up to 300 feet on the keel. The breadth of the Dock at the bottom is 40 feet, the top 80 feet, and the width at the entrance is 56 feet. Depth of water on the sand 18 feet at average high, and 17 feet at average spring tide. The Dock has a Chinese lock, and is pumped out by steam.

A new FORGE for large iron and brass castings has recently been added.

The Machine Shop contains a 12 inch Screw Cutting Gap-lathe, Small Lathe, Drilling and Boring Machines, a few small Mill, Large Sinker, &c., &c.

Dry Goods are in the premises, available for export of cargo, &c.

A large stock of Timber, Metal, and other Dock-yard Material always on hand.

Vessels docked for examination, remodeled, repaired, repaid also done in harbour; and iron ships and steamers cleaned and painted, at moderate charges. Particulars can be obtained at the Dock, or application to the under-

The Steam Tug W�ong is in thorough working order, and is available at all times to tow vessels to or from sea, at reasonable rates.

JOHN FORSTER & CO.
of 1889, Foochow, 15th June, 1874.

THE UNDERSIGNED beg to inform the Public of:

HONGKONG, NO NAM AND CANTON in that he has above established at those places in the name of HING KEE.

In HONGKONG, at the Central Market, No. 19, he has consequently had BEEF, MUTTON, POULTRY, BREAD, VEGETABLES, and OILMAN'S STORES, &c., of the best quality.

In NO NAM and CANTON SHOPS, the foregoing articles, with the addition of SPICES, SODA WATER, &c., and GAME when in season.

General and Private dealers of Patent Medicines are requested to apply at his shop, where a list of names of articles will be furnished, which will be supplied at the same rate all the year round.

HING KEE
by 742 Hongkong, 13th May, 1874.

NOTICE.

STEAMERS leaving this port requiring SC COAL, can obtain it from the Under-signed.

W. G. HALE & CO.,
Agents.

1st 150, 16th September, 1874.

THE SWISS LLOYD'S TRANSPORT INSURANCE COMPANY, WILSENBURG.

Capital Co.-shares with French Lloyd, Paris, Fr. 7,000,000.

AND WITH
French Company, Paris, 5,000,000.

THEB. Undersigned, having been appointed Agent for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurance as follows:

MARINE RISKS.

Policies granted on First-class Building to an amount of \$20,000 per ton.

A DISCOUNT OF FIVE PER CENT. (5%) ON THE PREMIUMS FOR INSURANCE, less than the premium charged for insurance; such discount being deducted at the time of issue of policy.

RUSSELL & CO., Agents.

1st 1 Hongkong, 1st January, 1874.

CHINA AND JAPAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

After this date the undersigned Local Insurance Office will charge the following Rates of Premium for Steamer via Sea Canal, being those now current in London, and at the principal ports of India, Australia, and the East.

A BREAKAGE OF QUARTER THIRDS and ONE-THIRD PER CENT. WILL BE ALLOWED ON ALL LOCAL BILLS.

FIRE RISKS.

Policies granted on First-class Buildings to an amount of \$20,000 per ton.

A DISCOUNT OF FIVE PER CENT. (5%) ON THE PREMIUMS FOR INSURANCE, less than the premium charged for insurance; such discount being deducted at the time of issue of policy.

RUSSELL & CO., Agents.

1st 1 Hongkong, 1st January, 1874.

CHINA AND JAPAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

After this date, a brokerage of Thirty Three and one-third per cent. (33 1/3%) will be allowed by this Agency, on risks to ports in CHINA, JAPAN, THE PHILIPPINES, and the STRAITS.

On risks to all other ports, the brokerage will be ten per cent. (10%) only.

WM. PUSTAU & CO., Agents.

1st 1 Hongkong, 1st January, 1874.

Banks.

THE QUEENSLAND NATIONAL BANK, LIMITED.
Incorporated under the Companies Act 1863.
CAPITAL, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE, BRISBANE.
DIRECTORS:
Hon. P. H. M. L. C. Chairman,
Hon. A. BUCHANAN, M.L.C.

HON. THOS. MCILWATHEN, M.L.C.

AUDITORS:
FREDERICK ORME DARVALL, Esq.
W. F. DIGBY, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER:
E. D. DURY.

BLANCHES:

BEENLEIGH, CHARTERS TOWERS,

COOTXTOWN,

GYMPIE,

MARYBOROUGH,

MILLCHESTER,

ROMA,

STANTHORPE,

TOOGOOBA,

TOWNSVILLE.

AGENTS IN LONDON:

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON;

THE NATIONAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA,

ASIA.

AGENTS IN NEW SOUTH WALES:

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF SYDNEY;

AGENTS IN VICTORIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, AND WESTERN AUSTRALIA;

THE NATIONAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA,

ASIA.

AGENTS IN NEW ZEALAND:

THE BANK OF NEW ZEALAND;

AGENTS IN INDIA AND THE EAST:

THE ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION,

6m 1874] [July 21, 1874]

THE ANGLO-CAFRORNIAN BANK (LIMITED),

412, CALIF. ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

London Office, Angel Court,

New York Agents, J. & W. SILLIGAN & CO., 21, Broad Street,

London Office, 1, Pall Mall, London.

AGENTS IN U.S.A.:

THE BANK OF CALIFORNIA.

AGENTS IN CHINA:

THE CHINESE BANK.

AGENTS IN JAPAN:

THE CHINESE BANK.

AGENTS IN SINGAPORE:

THE CHINESE BANK.

AGENTS IN HONGKONG:

THE CHINESE BANK.

AGENTS IN CHINA:

THE CHINESE BANK.

AGENTS IN JAPAN:

THE CHINESE BANK.

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AGENTS IN JAPAN:

THE CHINESE BANK.

AGENTS IN SINGAPORE:

THE CHINESE BANK.

LIBEL.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH, JUNE 25TH.
(After-Trial Non-Prize Sitting at Westminster.)
The Lord Chief Justice and a Special Jury.)

THE QUEEN v. BURWELL—PROSECUTION FOR LIBEL.

This was an indictment for libel preferred by Sir Reginald Barnewell against Admiral Burton. The case has already been the subject of an impartial inquiry in the City.

The Lord Chief Justice said: "The Lord Chief Justice asked if there was any reason for supposing that he suffered any effect of his mind."

Mr. Sergeant Ballantine said that was the impression on his and other minds.

The Lord Chief Justice said he could scarcely believe that the defendant had letters from Sir Reginald Barnewell.

Mr. Sergeant Ballantine said the facts could be put upon affidavits, and also that for some time the defendant had been placed under notice.

The Lord Chief Justice said the following Being a copy of the letter contained in the indictment:

"Madame—Are you acquainted with the dangerous, lying, slandering, penniless scamp Sir Reginald Barnewell? The disgraceful manner in which he speaks and writes about young ladies and eminent persons, persons whom he has never seen, and of high character, in order to try and damage their reputation, which is most shameful! I have been assured that he is a profligate Irish adventurer and fortune-hunter—Very truly yours,

LOUISA PITT.

"Bolgarvin, Saturday." The following evidence was called in support of the prosecution:

One Mr. Frankland of the Essex Rifle Militia.

In March, 1872, I was living in Brunswick-square, Brighton. On the 22nd of that month my wife received the letter produced, which I handed to Mr. Weston Gordon.

The Dowager Countess of Essex deposed: I rec'd. a letter, Bolgarvin square, on the 28th September, 1871, I received the letter produced.

Mr. Pitt: John Aldridge: "I have known the defendant about 3 years. I have seen him write. I produce a number of letters received from him on business matters. The letter produced by the first witness is, to the best of my belief, in the defendant's handwriting. The second bears certain letters in the defendant's handwriting, the word 'Sir' and the letters 'Pitt' are in it. In the signature 'Pitt' is written 'P.M.' I believe that what is the address on the envelope to Mrs. Pitt is in the defendant's handwriting, and certain letters in the address on the letter sent to the Dowager Countess of Essex.

Oros: examined: I form my opinion of the handwriting from my general knowledge of it, and a comparison of certain letters. I did not hear Mr. Gladstone's opinion of the handwriting, but I had formed one. It confirmed mine.

Lady Saundrift: I received the letter produced about two years ago.

Lord Abingdon: I received the letter produced in July, 1872. I always received a letter of the same character after I had had a party. The envelope is addressed to me, but the letter contains no name.

Mr. Giffard and Mrs. Morley also received the letter produced.

Mr. Gladstone: I was recalled and stated that, in his opinion, all the letters were written by the same person, and that certain alphabetical letters had been touched up by the defendant according to his usual manner of writing.

Goss: examined: I had had a quarrel with the Admiral, and communicated to the prosecutor that I had a number of his letters in my possession.

By the Lord Chief Justice: I made the communication after I saw the report of the proceedings in the police-court.

Lady Louisa: The defendant has married my mother. I know his handwriting well. The letters produced are his handwriting. (Several letters were handed in for the purpose of comparison.)

Mr. Gladstone: I pointed out the peculiarities of the defendant's handwriting, and their similarity in the letter.

The Lord Chief Justice said that the writer who was, had adopted the course on several occasions of only writing a part of the address, so that an unscrupulous person, seeing by the card, could, when the letters were put into the box, and avoid that they were not put into the box.

He is referring to the letter produced.

Mr. Sergeant Ballantine said that the note from which the letters were taken did not appear to have any of these peculiarities. There was a great deal in the case that it would be impossible to explain.

(Some of the letters appeared to have been written in a female hand, with alterations, and marks of the character of several hands.)

In cross-examination Mr. Chabot said that the peculiarities in the handwriting could not be copied.

Mr. Thomas Barwell: I was formerly in the defendant's service as footman and butler between sixteen and seventeen years. I am now a publican. The letters shown to me, to the best of my belief, are in the defendant's handwriting. He always wrote on white paper, and in black ink, like a lawyer, and dressed. I saw on one occasion two similar letters whilst in defendant's service, in a female handwriting. They fell out of his coat pocket, while I was brushing it. I would not give this information until I was in the box. I did not wish to be called as a witness.

Oros: examined: The letters were written on pink paper, but did not apply to Sir Reginald Barwell. They were folded up, and kept, but they were folded up. I opened and read them. They were not directed to any one.

By the Lord Chief Justice: They were taken at random, and signed either "Louisa Pitt" or "Julia Fane." I am sure it was not a letter addressed to Louisa Pitt or Julia Fane.

By Mr. Sergeant Ballantine: The letter did not commence "Dear Sir." I had care of the defendant's letter, and wrote business letters for him.

By Mr. Giffard: The letters refered to Lady Truelson. The letter was written giving information to the person to whom it was addressed.

Sir Reginald Barnewell: I live at 24, Green-street, Park-lane. I am related to Lord and Lady Truelson. The imputations contained in the letters are untrue.

Mr. Sergeant Ballantine: I don't ask you many questions.

This is the plaintiff's case.

Mr. Sergeant Ballantine did not call any witnesses.

Mr. Giffard: He had forgotten to put in the prosecution before the trial, and it was to be allowed then to do so. The defendant's statement was read. In it he totally and emphatically denied that the letters were in his handwriting, and further, that he never wrote an anonymous letter in his life to any human being. It was not likely, that, being eighty years of age, and suffering from infirmities, he would have written in the service of his country, that he had no wife, and no children, and to the writing of anonymous letters. He attributed the proceedings taken against him as the result of a conspiracy between General Bocke, Lord and Lady Truelson, and Sir Reginald Barnewell, to obtain money from him, in consequence of his wife leaving her property him, the greater portion of which she got by her husband dying without a will. He also had lost the memory of his family, and he had lost the memory of his friends. He complained that Sir Reginald Barnewell had written and spoken adversely of him.

Mr. Sergeant Ballantine addressed the jury for the defendant, who he said, had done before his magistrate that he had committed the acts imputed to him. He appealed to them on the ground of the defendant's age, and his suffering from his wounds, which might be said to affect his power to render him hardly capable of doing his duty, and that he could consistently with their duty, except the defendant. The evidence as to handwriting was not the class of evidence, however honestly given and faithfully carried out, that it might be under peculiar circumstances safe to accept.

He begged of them to look to the handwriting, with their minds as far as honesty, they could be given, with the hope that this old man was not guilty of this gross offence, and give him the benefit of the more favorable circumstances which was called a doubt and acquit him.

The Lord Chief Justice said this was a severe and painful trial, and it was to be regretted that an old and gallant officer and a gentleman should stand accused of such an offence as this.

If they were satisfied that guilt was brought home to him, they must discharge their duty and not allow any sympathy to cloud between them and it. The two letters were very like, and the handwriting was identical.

The paper will be submitted to the experts for analysis, and the results will be published in the "Daily Press" and "Morning Post."

For practical purposes the arrangement of the work is so complete, that reference to its original author is a person who, among Englishmen, is well known, and whose name is well known to the natives themselves.

The paper has been established for nearly Twenty Years, and is, as to Editorial Management, under the direction of a Well-Educated Chinese Gentleman, gives reliable commercial and general information, and has the same position with the Native Community as to American and European papers.

The paper, which is printed in English, is the only paper in China which is printed in English, and the contents will be as follows:

THE CHINESE TIMES, HONGKONG, NOVEMBER 1ST, 1874.

THE CHINESE TIMES, HONGKONG, NOV

EXTRACTS.

POEM OF ROBERT BURNS.

[Extracts unprinted.]
The trout is yonder wimbling here
The gild'd & silver dace,
And sae beneath the shaly thorn
Doffs the angler's art :
My life was one that careless stream,
That wended true was ;
But love wi' unlearning beam

has scoured my fountain dry.

That little fawn's sweetest lot

In yonder cliff that grieves, light I wet,

No ruler kens what,

Was mine, till late o'er me paused

And blighted a' my doom;

And now beneath the withering blast

My youth and joy consume

The wakish la'ock wailing spring,

And climbs the early sky,

Wimmin blythe his downy wings

Is morning's eye :

As little rock I norm's power :

The dove's a' stanes

O' waching love, in lackless hour,

Made me the thirl o' care

Every Sabbath.

A PLEASANT ARODE.

Nelson, writing in 1811, explains the great disproportion that then appeared in the Lexington parish registers between the burials and baptisms from the fact of the great number of individuals who returned to their then, often called "The London Hospital." Dr. Hunter used to relate a story of a lady, who, in an advanced age and declining state of health, with her advice of her physician, to take lodgings in Lexington. She agreed for a suite of rooms, and coming down stairs, observed that the barton were much out of repair. "These," she said, "must be mend'd, before we think of coming to live there," "Madam," replied the landlady, "that will answer no purpose, as the undertaker's man, in bringing down the coffin, are continually breaking the bunters." The old lady was so shocked at this funeral intelligence, that she immediately declined occupying the apartment. *From Cassell's Old and New London* by Walter Thornbury.

A NOVELTY IN PETS.

The passion for pets is universal. Sometimes it is carried to unjustifiable extremes, as in the case of that eccentric Duchess of Richmond, who entertained during her life at Richmond, her entertainments for their maintenance on the most princely scale of feline luxury a considerable fortune, with regularly-appointed trustees and rations to the survivors. Nor should we insult for general imitation the example of that Indian Rajah, whose fondness for his cossacks, or hunting-leopards, went to the extent of feeding them on his plump slaves. Within proper bounds, however, a liking for pets generally suggests the possession of something more than the average share of the milk of human kindness.

The truth is that the field of choice in these domestic favourites has hitherto been painfully limited. One is apt to get tired of the everlasting cat, the insatiable parrot, or the maddening monotony of canary-birds, which exact from the shuddering guest, come a terrible indecisive retrement of his club. In this last retreat, where the unprincipled people may sit and the servants of the parrot may, with a good cause, complain, he can, unless on the basis of a高尚的 taste, He may enjoy the happy freedom of those vulgar, but picturesque, quarters of the town, where the youthful affectations are permitted to twine themselves indifferently around the fur-tree, and the nocturnal cat, or the bounding goat, and the capricious and penitive pig. His room, with pleasure to the charming pet immortalized in Poe's story, and his wonders why the sportive and amiable monkey-boy had lost the place which in Juvenal's days he held in the hearts of the Roman fair. He finds himself warming toward the old doctor in "Septimus Felton," who made a familiar of a spider, and he is willing to admit that for the sake of variety, a brief change to the vicious taurants, or the grave and meditative rat-eatane, would be a relief from the present canine and feline despotism.

For this unhappy architect, we rejoice to say that there is but a Gilead, or a home, in Florida. There a new pet has been discovered, which is likely before long to make its way northward, and which for other reasons even more potent than its intrinsic fascination, is certain to put an end to the cat-and-dog régime in every household where it enters. The extent to which the new favourite has already established itself in the affections of the South, may be inferred from the sort of advertisement to be now seen in the corridors of Southern hotels: "Let a pet alligator from one of the rooms on the first floor. Finder please return to the office." And this, it is to be observed, is to be seen houses where, in accordance with that time-honoured rule of hotel discipline, "dogs are not allowed in the rooms," nor children permitted to play in the halls or parlors. The distinction is certainly flattering to the alligator, and marks the respect and affection with which already he appears to be regarded. It may not at first, indeed, be reassuring to the timid boarder to encounter stray alligators roaming through the corridors, or even peacefully repose under the bedstead. For a little while, too, the numerous mysterious disappearances of male children and negro waiters—for persons of that highly-flavoured race the epicurean alligator in his undomesticated state, at least, is said to have a decided penchant—may cause embarrassment to parents and innkeepers. But these objections will wear away with time.

Apart from these trifling drawbacks, there is much to recommend the new candidate to fashionable notice. His personal beauty, the peculiar grace and elegance of his movements, his native air, the warm attachment he has been known to exhibit for the human species, his remarkable intelligence, and above all, his unquestionable novelty, mark him formed for the delight of the boudoir and the ornament of the drawing-room. His coquetry in the beginning may seem rude and uncouth; but, by and by, the children will cry for him, and he will become an indispensable adjunct of every well-organized nursery. He will have a blue ribbon tied about his neck, and be called Fido or Flinna, or by other endearing names. He will earn the gratitude of the community by devoting in rapid succession the dog, the cat, the parrot, and, we trust, in some unguarded moment, the canary-bird. He will greet his master as he comes home from business, wagging his tail joyously, and expressing a plainly as looks can tell that he has just dined on the greater portion of the family, and that he enjoyed them uncommonly well. In short, he will make himself thoroughly at home, and the centre of affectionate interest in every circle where he is adopted.

We look forward, therefore, to the advent of the pet alligator with unabated satisfaction. In time we may even hope to see the pet hyena, the pet rhinoceros, the pet grizzly, the pet camelopard, diversifying our parlours, and lending an agreeable incentive to conversation. The anchorite of the club may be content.—*New York Times*.

FORMIC FUNGUS FARMERS.

(Scientific American.)
A short time ago there was discovered in Texas a race of diminutive grangers who had solved the transformation problem by the simple and sensible plan of raising all the grain required for their communities, each for itself and at its own doors, and letting other communities do the same or go hungry. They were ants, clever little fellows, whose agricultural operations were carried on with the utmost system and success, and who were thought to be the only creatures not human who had arrived at so high a stage of civilization. Other harvesting ants collect the chance productions of the fields or trust to the husbandry of man for their supplies of grain; but these are independent farmers, who surround their colonies with grain land, which they keep clear of useless growths by nipping in the bud every plant except the rice grass, whose seeds they intend to gather for their winter store, thus giving evidence of no small degree of calculation and forethought, as well as industrial economy.

But it appears that they are not alone in this sort of thing, and that their operations are slight and simple compared with those of the *colonies* of Central America, better known as leaf-cutting ants. The leaf-cutters have long been notorious as the most destructive of all the insect pests of tropical America, the tender-leaved fruits planted in from other localities suffering especially from their ravages. Indeed, multitudes of plantations of orange, mango, and lemon trees have been stripped and destroyed by them, so that in many parts this otherwise profitable industry is liable to be given up entirely.

Their nests generally consist of a cluster of low mounds, pierced by tunnels, from half an inch to six or eight inches in diameter, and situated, in a little clearing made by nipping the shrubbery through the persistent biting off of buds and leaves, evidently to secure sunshine and a free circulation of air. Leading out from these mounds are well-merled paths, it may be half a mile long and several inches wide, throned like the streets of a great city with busy workers bringing in leafy burdens or hurrying out ward from a load. As far as the eye can distinguish these tiny forms, says a recent observer, troops and troops of leaves are seen moving up toward the central point, and disappearing down the tunneled passage. The approaching, empty-handed hosts are partly concealed among the bulky burdens of the immensity, and can be distinguished only by looking closely. "The ceaseless, tolling hosts impress one with their power, and one asks: What force can stand before such invader?"

What force can stand before such invaders? It is that vegetation is not seen on the face of the earth? Surely nowhere but in the tropics, where the recuperative powers of nature are immense and ever active, could such devastations be withstood."

—Very wonderful are the operations of these leaf-cutters, open in the open air, they are as nothing to those that go on under ground.

Hitherto the use made of the leaves gathered in such immense quantities has been a mystery. Some have thought they must be used directly as food; others, that they were employed in roofing the nests; undergrowth chambers; but no one suspected their real use until the secret was disclosed to the observer already quoted, Mr. Thomas Bell, in the course of certain mining operations which he was supervising in Nicaragua.

On two occasions, earth cuttings were made from below through a very large nest of these ants, in such a way as to lay their operations clearly open to observation. The tunneled passages were found to lead to numerous connected chambers about the size of a man's hand—usually three-fourths filled with a fluctuating mass of light and loosely-connected bits of leaves, withered to a brown colour and overgrown with a minute white fungus mixed with the substances were numbers of ant nests with pupae and larvae.

By numerous observations, which he has made, enough, Mr. Bell became convinced that ant-nests were the real food of the ants, and all of their outside operations were tributary to this. The leaves, the leaves are collected, as human farmers collect manure and guano, for individual use as fertilizers. The ants do not confine themselves to leaves, but take any vegetable substance suitable for growing this fungus on. Nor do they take leaves indiscriminately, grass, for example, being always rejected; and when any ant, more stupid or less experienced than ordinary, makes the mistake of carrying in an insipid leaf, they are promptly brought out and thrown away. Great care is also taken in regard to the condition of the leaves carried into the chambers. In case a student should observe on the wet pieces are deposited outside to be picked up and taken in when nearly dry, should the weather clear up promptly, when spoilt by too much rain. On the other hand, in very dry and hot weather, when the leaves would wither on the way to the nest, the ants wait until sundown before going out, or do their gathering wholly in the night.

When a community migrates, the fresh fungus growths are carefully transported to the new burrows in the jaws of the middle-aged workers, the larger members of the community acting only as directors of the march or defenders of the rest, in case the column is attacked. The nurses already mentioned are the smallest of all, and their duties lie wholly underground, in cutting up the leaves and attending to the young ants. They never carry leaves, but may sometimes be seen running out along the paths with the others apparently for the fun of the thing; for instead of helping the rest, they perch themselves on the pieces that are being brought in, and so, like potted children, get a ride home.

As might be expected with creatures who have developed so complicated a system of industrial economy, these ants are extremely clever. A single illustration will suffice to show their practical good sense. To drive off a colony which had established themselves in his garden, Mr. Bell gave their nest a soaking with carbolic acid and water. The effect was all that could have been desired. The marauding parties were at once withdrawn from the garden to meet the danger at home; the whole formicarium was disorganized; and big followings came stalking up to repel the supposed invader, only to descend again in the utmost perplexity. By the next morning a new nest had been established, some yards distant, and the survivors were busy carrying their supplies thither. It happened that between the two stations there was a steep slope, instead of descending them with their burdens, the ants cast them down at the top, whence they rolled to the bottom, where another relay of labourers picked them up and carried them to the new burrow. It was amusing, says Mr. Bell, to watch the ants hurrying out with bundles of food, dropping them over the slope, then rushing back immediately for more. It is difficult to attribute such a sensible and at the same time exceptional division of labour to anything radically different from human intelligence!

—Edward Norton & Co., Agents.

1874, 25th June, 1874.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

AGENCIES, at the Trade Ports of China and Japan, and at Singapore, Siam, and Penang.

Agents accepted, and Policies of Insurance granted at the rates of Premium current at the above-mentioned Ports.

No charge for Policy fees.

JAS. N. COUGHLIN, Secretary.

Hongkong, 1st November, 1871. (M. 36)

NOTICE.

THE QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY.